



Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

Innovation. Collaboration. Practical Solutions.

May 16, 2017
Senator Ginny Burdick, Chair Senate Committee on Rules
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: SB 1008-A3

Chair Burdick and members of the Senate Committee on Rules,

The City of Portland supports the amended legislation to reduce emissions of particulate matter from diesel combustion. We commend the process that led to the introduction of SB 1008 and fully support the direction of the A3 amendments as a key strategy to reduce idling and transition away from older diesel engines.

North Portland has the highest level of diesel particulate matter in the state, nearly 20 times the health standard. Diesel exhaust is 100 times more toxic than gasoline exhaust, and includes fine sooty particles layered in heavy metals and toxic gases. In order to address effects on human health, the City of Portland has prioritized improved air quality through replacement and retrofits of high-polluting diesel equipment, a commitment dating back to 2006. We have retrofitted nearly all of the City's construction equipment with diesel emission controls as part of federal grant project. However, addressing diesel emissions through City policy alone is exceedingly difficult, and the aggregate benefits of such efforts are limited. The City supports statewide standards and incentives that cover both on-road and off-road fleets.

The City of Portland also encourages the Oregon Legislature to explore authorization of a Clean Diesel Sticker or Certification Program - administered by DEQ - which would create a way for construction project managers and the public to easily ascertain if a piece of equipment meets clean diesel standards. A clean diesel sticker program would help ensure consistent application of requirements, enables an easy way for contractors to demonstrate compliance and addresses concerns raised by public sector construction managers about their ability to enforce clean diesel standards that may be adopted as local procurement policy. The City of Portland appreciates the work of this Committee to come up with policy and state funding to reduce Oregonians' exposure to harmful diesel exhaust.

Sincerely,

Susan Anderson, Director, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability



City of Portland, Oregon | Bureau of Planning and Sustainability | www.portlandoregon.gov/bps
1900 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 7100, Portland, OR 97201 | phone: 503-823-7700 | fax: 503-823-7800 | tty: 503-823-6868

Printed on 100% post-consumer waste recycled paper.